

Models FOR THE Nation

Center Innovations2

Calendar of Events3

Resources.....6

CoE Awards7

NOVEMBER, 1999

Message from Wanda K. Jones, Dr.P.H.

On behalf of the Office on Women's Health within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, I am pleased to present the first issue of the National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health newsletter.

The National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health (CoEs) represent a unique approach to women's health for academic health institutions – one that links together advances in research, service delivery, teaching, and public outreach and seeks to improve the career prospects for women in the health professions. The purpose of this newsletter is to highlight select programs and activities that offer a glimpse at this innovative new model for women's health. Each edition of this newsletter will also offer news on upcoming events, awards, and a resource page for the CoE Program. Our hope: that this newsletter will stimulate the exchange of information and strategies to truly advance excellence in women's health today, and in the future.

In the last 3 years, the CoEs have made significant strides in advancing a multi-disciplinary and comprehensive approach to women's health. They have begun to define a standard of excellence by which we may measure progress in women's health in the future. As we approach the dawn of a new, 21st century, I offer you the challenge of these women's health resolutions:

- That future health care providers, male or female, will have the knowledge, skills, and attitude to address the health issues of men and women of diverse backgrounds and walks of life.
- That all women in the community, particularly those who are medically underserved, will be heard, and receive the health information and services they need.
- That advances in research will translate rapidly and appropriately to the practice and teaching of medicine.

- That greater numbers of women will hold leadership positions in the health care professions – as clinicians, teachers, administrators, and researchers.
- That women's health will achieve a high status as a health discipline.
- That career rewards will be associated with the choice of women's health as a career specialty.
- That women, as both health care providers and consumers, will be empowered to ensure that health policies and practice work toward longer and healthier lives for all.



Wanda K. Jones, Dr.P.H.
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (Women's Health)
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

WOMEN'S HEALTH TIME CAPSULE

As we near the close of the 20th century, we have a remarkable opportunity to reflect on the advancements that have transformed women's health in the past 100 years. To capture this century of change, the Office on Women's Health within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is preparing a centennial women's health time capsule that will be buried in a place of honor on DHHS property. We'd like to hear from you which objects or documents you would put in this time capsule to convey the past century's strides in advancing the health of our nation's women – nylon stockings, the birth control pill, *Our Bodies/Ourselves*, the Hunt Valley Report, a Barbie doll..? Please join us for this historic project by sending your suggestions to Susan Clark (sclark@osophs.dhhs.gov) by November 29, 1999.



CoE Innovations

Across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, the 17 National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health (CoEs) are addressing and providing for the health care needs of women in their communities and throughout the nation. The CoEs offer innovative, community-based solutions for women seeking the finest comprehensive health care.

Each issue of *Models for the Nation* will highlight innovative activities being coordinated at several centers. This issue features CoE programs at Harvard University, University of California at Los Angeles, University of California at San Francisco, University of Illinois at Chicago, and the University of Pennsylvania.

Harvard University

Minority Women's Health Diary. The Harvard CoE is working with community health centers and other community-based organizations to develop a health diary for minority women to maintain throughout their lifetimes, from adolescence to older age. The diary will focus on the needs identified by minority women and will be available in several languages.

The diary will be divided into sections according to the age categories, and each section will provide general descriptions of what should take place in a standard "check-up" with a medical provider and will suggest questions women should pose to the provider. The sections will contain information about major health concerns for each age group with explanations about preventive strategies and treatment options. This information will eventually be available on video with accompanying written guides.

HMS Fund for Women's Health. The CoE launched the Harvard Medical School (HMS) Fund for Women's Health, which provides 1-year grants to help HMS junior faculty initiate new, collaborative, inter-institutional projects in basic research, clinical research, health services research, or education in women's health. The grants focus on academic career advancement for women and minority faculty, health issues of particular concern to minority and disadvantaged groups, and women's health issues that are under-supported.

In 1999, eight grants were awarded to study topics ranging from "The Impact of 'One-Stop' Comprehensive Care on the Quality of Care for Minority Women" to "A Multicenter Randomized Controlled Trial of Sustained Release of Bupropion for Smoking Cessation During Pregnancy." The CoE is very encouraged by the huge response to the first offering of the HMS Fund for Women's Health, and sees this response as an indication of a real need to expand resources for women researchers.

University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)

Prescription for Patient Education. Developed by the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education and Resource Center, a component of the UCLA CoE, the

Prescription for Patient Education Program integrates patient education and clinical services. Using a prescription pad similar to those used for medical prescriptions, physicians check off the topics that the patient needs information on, such as breast health, exercise, diabetes, or menopause, and refers the patient to the Resource Center, where they get the appropriate materials and Web site addresses.

The program was developed to give physicians more time to discuss diagnostic and treatment issues with their patients, leaving health education up to the Resource Center. The Prescription also gives patients education that is specific to their health, helping them become more informed, empowered health-care consumers.

Top 10 List. The Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education and Resource Center Top 10 list recognizes high-profile individuals for their significant efforts in women's health education, and encourages others to use their celebrity to educate women on critically important health topics. Television and film star Cybill Shepherd was one of the 1998 Top 10 award winners for her efforts in educating the public about menopause.

University of California at San Francisco (UCSF)

Women's Health Pharmacy Residency. Recognizing the importance of developing specialists in women's health across disciplines the UCSF CoE, under the leadership of Ronald J. Ruggiero, Pharm.D., has developed and received funding to offer one of the nation's only Women's Health Pharmacy Residency. Across the lifespan and at all educational levels, women have expressed confusion and frustration with contraception choices, menopausal therapies, and mental health treatments. Unfortunately, while pharmacological options for women are expanding, both time and formulary restrictions on care providers are reducing women's access to necessary information. Pharmacists have a unique role to play in the education and coordination of women's pharmacotherapy. To effectively fulfill the responsibilities of this new role, comprehensive educational programs are needed which address drugs that specifically impact the life and health of women. The UCSF CoE Women's Health Pharmacy Residency represents one program in a larger education strategy. The original funding to implement this residency program in 1998-1999

was obtained from the UCSF School of Pharmacy. The 1999-2000 residency is supported through an educational award from Parke-Davis.

University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

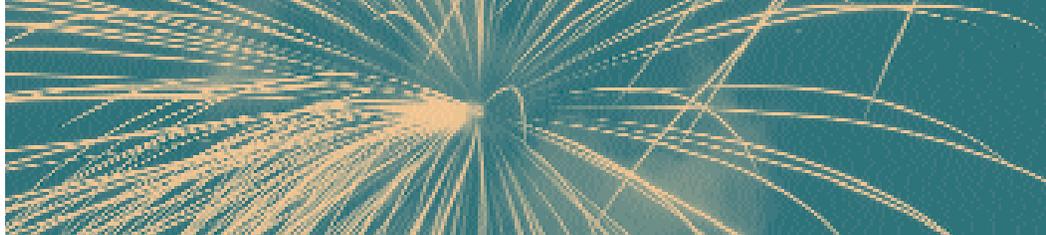
Dietary Supplements Effectiveness Study. The UIC College of Pharmacy has received a \$7.9 million grant from the NIH to create one of the nation's first centers to research dietary supplements. Working closely with the UIC CoE, the Center for Dietary Supplements Research on Botanicals will focus on women's health, with an emphasis on education and outreach. The multidisciplinary UIC research team includes experts



The secret of joy in work is contained in one word – excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it.

Pearl S. Buck,
The Joy of Children (1964)

CoE Innovations continued on page 7



calendar of events

NOVEMBER 1999

November 1

Women's Health Seminar Series – "Gender-Based Biology and Research," Dr. Florence Haseltine, Director of the Center for Population Research, NICHD. 4pm, Sticht Center Auditorium, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

November 4

7th Annual Women's Occupational Safety and Health Conference. Chicago Illinois University, 28 South Wolcott, Chicago, IL. For more information, call (312) 996-6904 (University of Illinois at Chicago CoE).

November 5

"Alternative Medicine and Women's Health," Dr. Adriane Fugh-Berman; 8:30am-12:30pm, Pyle Center, 702 Langdon Street, Madison, WI. For more information, call (608) 262-2451 (University of Wisconsin CoE).

November 6

The First Annual Elizabeth Karlin Women's Health Conference and Celebration. UW's Memorial Union, Madison WI. For more information, call (608) 262-5252 (University of Wisconsin CoE).

November 8-10

The 5th Annual Graylyn Conference on Women's Health – "Women's Cognitive Health: The Role of Estrogen and Other Factors in Dementia." Graylyn Conference Center, Winston-Salem, NC. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

November 9

"The Future is Now: Novel Genetic Technology to Predict Treatment for Brain Cancer." 7-9pm, Rhonda Fleming Mann Resource Center for Women with Cancer. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

November 11

Women's Health Research Colloquium – "A Biopsychosocial Perspective on Women's Health: Findings from Recent Longitudinal Studies," Carol Ryff, Ph.D. 4-5pm, WARF Building. For more information, call (608) 267-5566 (University of Wisconsin CoE).

November 13

Women's Expo '99. Indiana Convention Center and RCA Dome, 10am-6pm. For more information, call (317) 630-2243 (Indiana University CoE).

November 16

"Preparing for Disaster: Everything from A to Y2K." 12-1pm, Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education and Resource Center. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

November 16

Women's Health Forum – "Colon Cancer: A Women's Health Issue," Carolyn Cole, MSN, MM. 8-9am, Women and Family Center Meeting Room at Meriter Hospital Park. For more information, call (608) 267-5566 (University of Wisconsin CoE).

November 17

"Blaming Patients: Victims or Culprits?" Richard Gunderman, M.D., Ph.D. 12-1pm, IU School of Medicine, IUPUI School of Liberal Arts, Medical Library, 1B 301-302. For more information, call (317) 274-4740 (Indiana University CoE).

November 19

Lecture and Q&A – "Menopausal Symptom Relief with Acupuncture," Susan M. Cohen, RN, DSN, CN, C-F.N.P. Associate Professor, Yale School of Nursing. 12-1pm, Max Taffel Room, A&B. For more information, call (203) 737-1953 (Yale University CoE).

November 24

CoE Monthly Conference – "Disorders of Pubertal Development," Ora Pescovitz, M.D., Department of Pediatrics. 12-1pm, Cancer Research Institute Auditorium. For more information, call (317) 274-2754 (Indiana University CoE).

November 30

"Festive Holiday Favorites the Health Way: A Cooking Demonstration." 12-1pm, Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education and Resource Center. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

November is:

Diabetic Eye Disease Month
National Alzheimer's Awareness Month
National Diabetes Month
National Epilepsy Month

DECEMBER 1999

December 1

"Heart Disease in Women: Where Are We Now? Where Are We Going?" San Francisco, CA. For more information, call (415) 476-5208 (USCF CoE).

December 2-4

"Controversies in Women's Health." Palace Hotel, San Francisco, CA. For more information, call (415) 476-5208 (USCF CoE).

December 6

"The Women, Estrogen and Stroke Trial," Lawrence Brass, M.D., Yale University. 4pm, Sticht Center Auditorium, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

December 6 & 13

UCLA National Model Clinical Multidisciplinary Conference, 12-1pm. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

December 7

“Spirituality and Healing.” 7-9pm, Rhonda Fleming Mann Resource Center for Women with Cancer. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

December 9

Women’s Health Research Colloquium – “The Benefits of Exercise in Older Women with Breast Cancer.” Theresa Woods, Ph.D. 4-5pm, WARF building. For more information, call (608) 267-5566 (University of Wisconsin CoE).

December 15

Lecture and Q&A – “Human-Papillomavirus and Cervical Cancer,” Janet Brandsmith, Ph.D., Associate Professor. 12-1pm, Grace Building, 1st Floor, Lounge B. For more information, call (203) 737-1953 (Yale University CoE).

December is:

National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month
Safe Toys and Gifts Month

JANUARY 2000

January 5

“Cardiovascular Disease in Women.” Pamela S. Douglas, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Director, NonInvasive Cardiology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Research Director, Harvard Medical School’s Center of Excellence in Women’s Health. For more information, call (800) 417-4432 (Harvard University CoE).

January 10

“Causes and Promising Treatments of Urinary Incontinence,” Beth Dugan, Ph.D., and Liz Albertson, M.D. 4pm, Sticht Center Auditorium, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

January 10

Women’s Health Seminar Series – “Causes and Promising Treatments of Urinary Incontinence,” Elizabeth Dugan, Ph.D., and Liz Albertson, M.D. 12 noon, Sticht Auditorium, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

January 11

“Breast Cancer, Menopause, and Hormone Replacement Therapy.” 7-9pm, Rhonda Fleming Mann Resource Center for Women with Cancer. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

January 12

“PTSD in Women with a History of Childhood Sexual Abuse: Neuroimaging of the Hippocampus,” Douglas Bremner, M.D., Assistant Professor, Psychiatry. Lecture 4-5pm, Q&A 5-5:30pm. For more information, call (203) 737-1953 (Yale University CoE).

January 22-28

“Advances in Maternal and Fetal Medicine.” Snowmass, Colorado. For more information, call (415) 476-7978 (UCSF CoE).

January 25

“The Mind-Body Connection.” 6-7:30pm, Iris Cantor-UCLA Women’s Health Education and Resource Center. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

January 26

“Developing a Women’s Health Research Agenda,” Angela Barron McBride, Ph.D., Dean of the IU School of Nursing. CoE monthly conference, 12-1pm, Cancer Research Institute Auditorium. For more information, call (317) 630-2243 (Indiana University CoE).

January is:

National Eye Care Month
National Glaucoma Awareness Month
National Birth Defects Prevention Month
Cervical Health Month

FEBRUARY 2000

February 2

“Endometriosis: A Paradigm for Estrogen Responsive Diseases,” Robert Barbieri, M.D., Kate Macy Ladd Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology, Harvard Medical School Chief, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Brigham and Women’s Hospital. For more information, call (800) 417-4432 (Harvard University CoE).

February 7

“Estrogen Effects on Cognition and the Brain,” Mary Lou Voytko, Ph.D. 12 noon, Sticht Auditorium, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

February 7, 14, & 28

UCLA National Model Clinical Center Multidisciplinary Conference, 12-1pm. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

February 8

“Healthy Survivorship: Embracing Life through Cancer.” 7-9pm, Rhonda Fleming Mann Resource Center for Women with Cancer. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

February 9, 16, 23, & March 1

“Women’s Self Defense Series.” 5:30-7pm, Iris Cantor-UCLA Women’s Health Education and Resource Center for Women with Cancer. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

February 16

“Effects of Estrogen on Cognition in Postmenopausal Women” Sally Shaywitz, M.D., Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Neurology, Lecture and Q&A, 12-1pm, Brady Auditorium, B131. For more information, call (203) 737-1953 (Yale University CoE).

February 17-18

Inaugural Anthem and Indiana University CoE lectureship, speaker Wanda Jones, Dr.P.H. For more information, call (317) 630-2243 (Indiana University CoE).

February 20-25

"Office of Gynecology and Urinary Incontinence: Clinical Update for Primary Care Providers" Outrigger, Wakoloa Beach, Hawaii. For more information, call (415) 476-7978 (UCSF CoE).

February 23

"Health Care of Adolescent Women," Margaret Blythe, M.D., Departments of Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology. CoE monthly conference, 12-1pm, Cancer Research Auditorium. For more information, call (317) 630-2243 (Indiana University CoE).

February 23

"Treatment of Migraine Headache in Special Populations," Karen B. DeSalvo, M.D., MPH, Assistant Professor, Tulane University School of Medicine. 6:30pm, Cannon's Restaurant. For more information, call (504) 588-5100 (Tulane University and Xavier University of Louisiana CoE).

February is:

American Heart Month
Low Vision Awareness Month
National Children's Dental Health Month
Wise Health Consumer Month
Women and Heart Disease
Black History Month

MARCH 2000

March 1

"Women and Tobacco Use: Does Gender Matter?" Nancy Rigotti, M.D., Director, Tobacco Research Treatment Program, Massachusetts General Hospital, Assistant Professor of Medicine. For more information, call (800) 417-4432 (Harvard University CoE).

March 2-5

Conference on Sex and Gene Expression (SAGE). Graylyn Conference Center, Winston-Salem, NC. Call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

March 8

"Irritable Bowel Syndrome: Why It Occurs, What You Can Do." 6-7pm, Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education and Resource Center. (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

March 6, 13, 20, & 27

UCLA National Model Clinical Multidisciplinary Conference. 12-1pm. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

March 13

"Eating Disorders: Clinical Manifestations of Eating Dysfunction," Debra Benfield, Med, RDLDN. 12 noon, Sticht Center Auditorium, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

March 14

"Stem Cell and Bone Marrow Transplant in Cancer." 7-9pm, Rhonda Fleming Mann Resource Center for Women with Cancer. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

March 18

"Women's Health 2000." San Francisco, CA. For more information, call (415) 353-2668 (UCSF CoE).

March 22

CoE monthly conference - "Urinary Incontinence," Ann Zerr, M.D., Department of Medicine. 12-1pm, Cancer Research Auditorium. For more information, call (317) 630-2243 (Indiana University CoE).

March 29

"Women and Bleeding Disorders." 12-1pm, Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education & Resource Center, UCLA CoE. For more information, call (310) 794-9039 (UCLA CoE).

March is:

Hemophilia Month
Mental Retardation Awareness Month
National Kidney Month
National Nutrition Month
Women's History Month
National Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Awareness Month
National Eye Donor Month
Workplace Eye Health and Safety Month

APRIL 2000

April 3

"Gender Differences in a Monkey Model of Alcoholism," Kathleen Grant, Ph.D. 12 noon, Sticht Center Auditorium, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. For more information, call (336) 713-4220 (Wake Forest University CoE).

April 4-8

"Clinical Infertility and Reproductive Endocrinology," Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco, CA. For more information, call (415) 476-7978 (UCSF CoE).

April 5

"Exercise, Eating Disorders, Amenorrhea, and Osteoporosis," Michelle P. Warren, M.D., Wyeth Professor of Women's Health, Medical Director, Center for Menopause, Hormonal Disorders, and Women's Health, Professor of Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology, Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons. For more information, call (800) 417-4432 (Harvard University CoE).

April 20

"Re-evaluating Neuropathic Pain Treatment Algorithms," Vivian Fonseca, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine. 6:30pm, Dickle Brennan's Restaurant. For more information, call (504) 588-5100 (Tulane University and Xavier University of Louisiana CoE).

April is:

Alcohol Awareness Month
Cancer Control Month
National Child Abuse Prevention Month
National STD Awareness Month
Counseling Awareness Month
National Occupational Therapy Month
National Youth Sports Safety Month
Women's Eye Health and Safety Month



NATIONAL CENTERS OF
EXCELLENCE
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

resources

CoE CONTACT INFORMATION:

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720 Harrison Avenue, Suite 1108
Boston, MA 02118
(617) 638-8035
(617) 638-8026 (FAX)
www.bmc.org/coewh/

Harvard University
PBB5
75 Francis Street
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 732-8798
(617) 264-5210 (FAX)
<http://www.hmcnet.harvard.edu/coe/>

Indiana University
School of Medicine
Indiana Cancer Pavilion
535 Barnhill Drive, RT-150
Indianapolis, IN 46202
(317) 274-2754
(317) 274-2785 (FAX)
<http://www.iupui.edu/~womenhlt/>

Magee Women's Hospital
University of Pittsburgh
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
and Reproductive Sciences
204 Craft Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3180
(412) 641-6003
(412) 641-1503 (FAX)
<http://www.magee.edu/cewh2.htm>

MCP Hahnemann University
Institute for Women's Health
The Gatehouse MCP Hospital
3300 Henry Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19129
(215) 842-7041
(215) 843-7946 (FAX)
<http://www.auhs.edu/institutes/iwh/coe.html>

Ohio State University Medical Center
456 West 10th Avenue
1018 UHC
Columbus, OH 43210-1228
(614) 293-2828
(614) 293-2801 (FAX)
<http://www.osumedcenter.edu/women/>

**Tulane University and Xavier
University of Louisiana**
Tulane University School of Public Health
and Tropical Medicine
127 Elks Place, EP-7
New Orleans, LA 70112
(877) 588-5100
(504) 988-4657 (FAX)
<http://www.tulane.edu/~tuxcoe/>

**University of California,
Los Angeles**
100 UCLA Medical Plaza Drive
Suite 290
Los Angeles, California 90095-7075
(800) 825-2631 (CoE)
(310) 794-9039
(310) 267-1585 (FAX)
<http://womenshealth.med.ucla.edu/>

**University of California,
San Francisco**
2200 Post Street, C-520
San Francisco, California 94143-1694
(415) 885-7273
(415) 885-7393 (FAX)
<http://itsa.ucsf.edu/~ucsfcoe/>

University of Illinois at Chicago
1640 West Roosevelt Road
Room 503, UIC M/C 980
Chicago, Ill 60608
(312) 413-1924
(312) 413-7423 (FAX)
[http://www.uic.edu/orgs/womenshealth/
index.html](http://www.uic.edu/orgs/womenshealth/index.html)

**University of Michigan
Health System**
Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology
1500 E. Medical Center Drive
L4011 Women's Hospital
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
(734) 763-0984
(734) 936-9616 (FAX)
<http://www.med.umich.edu/whrc/ctr.excel.html>

University of Pennsylvania
Center for Research on Women's Health and
Reproduction
778 Clinical Research Building
415 Curie Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6142
(215) 898-0147
(215) 573-5408 (FAX)
<http://www.obgyn.upenn.edu/cewh/>

University of Puerto Rico
Medical Sciences Campus
PO Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067
(787) 753-0090
(787) 758-2525 ext. 1368
(787) 753-0090 (FAX)
<http://www.rcm.upr.edu/2k1whc/>

University of Washington, Seattle
4245 Roosevelt Way, NE
Campus Box 354765
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 548-8986
(206) 548-8957 (FAX)
<http://depts.washington.edu/~uw98coe/>

University of Wisconsin, Madison
Meriter Hospital – 6 West
202 South Park Street
Madison, WI 53715
(608) 267-5566
(608) 267-5577 (FAX)
<http://www.womenshealth.wisc.edu/>

**Wake Forest University Baptist
Medical Center**
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27157
(336) 713-4220
(336) 777-3085 (FAX)
<http://www.wfubmc.edu/women/>

Yale University
Women's Health at Yale
333 Cedar Street
PO Box 208091
Women's Health Program
PCC Room C
New Haven, CT 06520-8025
(203) 737-5820
(203) 737-5822 (FAX)
<http://info.med.yale.edu/womenshealth/>

For additional women's health information and resources:

**National Women's Health
Information Center**
Office on Women's Health
Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, D.C.
800-994-WOMAN
T.D.D. 1-888-220-5446
<http://www.4woman.gov/>

CoE Home Page:
<http://www.4woman.gov/owh/coe>

CoE Awards

Professional organizations, community leaders, and the media have recognized the CoEs for national leadership in improving and advancing women's health. We are proud to showcase the following honors some CoEs have received.

Harvard Medical School

Recognized in the American Medical Association's (AMA) Cultural Competence Compendium. The Cultural Competence Compendium is part of the AMA's initiative to move the medical profession and the public to create behavioral institutional changes that will enable physicians to provide individualized, patient-centered care that respects all cultures. The Harvard Medical School CoE was noted for its efforts to reduce disparities in health care for women and enhance cultural competence for physicians.

The Harvard CoE Research Subcommittee was chosen to coordinate the process of selecting grant submissions and candidates for the Pfizer/Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research scholar's grant.

Tulane University and Xavier University of Louisiana

Jeanette H. Magnus, M.D., Ph.D., Acting CoE Center Director, received the Unger-Vetlesen Medical Foundation Award for her involvement in international research activities.

University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)

The Westside Women's Health Center honored CoE Director Janet Pregler, M.D., with the "Outstanding Service

to the Community Award" at a gala dinner in May 1999. *Health* magazine ranked UCLA, along with the University of California at San Francisco, among the "Top 5 Best Women's Health Centers" in the country.

University of California at San Francisco (UCSF)

The media has recognized the clinical component of the UCSF CoE as a leader in caring for women.

- *Elle* Magazine, January 1999: UCSF Women's Health Resource Center was listed as one of the best "One-Stop Shopping" women's health centers in the country.

- *Lifetime Television, New Attitudes*, July 1999: Profiled both the UCSF CoE and Boston University Medical Center CoE as two of

the best comprehensive women's health programs in the country. The program also spotlighted patients and key CoE staff.

Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center

The Wake Forest CoE received a mayoral proclamation designating September 12-19 as the "Women's Health Center of Excellence - Domestic Violence Initiative Week" for the city of Winston-Salem, NC. During the week, the Center sponsored nightly events targeting teens, college students, community members, health care, legal and law enforcement professionals, and communities of faith to respond to domestic violence in the community. The week culminated in a nationally sanctioned triathlon with proceeds going to the local women's shelter



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CoE Innovations continued from page 2

from pharmacognosy, medicinal chemistry, pharmacy practice, obstetrics and gynecology, geriatrics, surgical oncology, and mathematics and statistics.

Researchers will begin by studying 10 herbal supplements that are widely used by women in this country to treat conditions including menopausal symptoms, premenstrual syndrome, and urinary tract problems. The College of Pharmacy will offer graduate students the opportunity to specialize in botanical supplements and post-doctoral professionals to receive training in this field. A long-term goal for the UIC Center for Dietary Supplements Research on Botanicals is the translation of research about botanical dietary supplements for women into the clinical care arena. Thus, phase I and phase II clinical trials are planned. The clinical project is entitled "Clinical Evaluation of Botanical Dietary Supplements." Other projects in the Center include:

CoE Innovations continued on page 8

**Office on Women's Health
Department of Health and Human Services**

**National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health
National Program Office Staffing Team:**

Susan M. Clark, M.A.
Director, Division of Program
Management
CoE Project Officer

Susan F. Wood, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Policy &
Program Development
Federal Liaison for Research
Coordination Working Group

Saralyn Mark, M.D.
Senior Medical Advisor

Valerie Gwinner, M.P.P., D.E.A.
Senior Program Analyst

Sandi Lowery
Public Health Analyst

Jonelle Rowe, M.D.
Senior Medical Advisor on
Adolescent Health

Carol Krause, M.A.
Director, Division of
Communication

Anna Kindermann, J.D.
Public Health Analyst

Elizabeth Carey, M.P.P.
Public Health Analyst

Shirley Dabney, M.A., M.P.A.
Federal Liaison for
Minority Women's Health
Working Group

Darryl Dunlap
Staff Assistant,
Program Management

Paul DiNenna
Staff Assistant, Communication

Jennifer Schlesinger
Intern

Gayle Squires
Intern

Dwana Lynch
Intern

CoE Innovations continued from page 7

1. Standardization of Botanical Dietary Supplements
2. Estrogenic Agents: In Vitro and In Vivo Evaluation
3. In Vitro Studies of Metabolism, Absorption, and Toxicity

HIV/STD Prevention in Women's Health. A major factor contributing to the increase of AIDS among women is a lack of awareness and understanding of both risk and effective prevention. Recognizing this problem, the UIC-CoE developed a public awareness campaign on human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) to educate sexually active women who tend not to consider themselves to be at risk for HIV/STD infection. The project targets women living in smaller cities and suburban and rural areas outside Cook County, Illinois. Sponsored by the Illinois Department of Public Health's Office of Women's Health, the campaign includes education, marketing, and evaluation.

University of Pennsylvania

Health Tip Cards. The Health Tip Card (HTC) project is an educational outreach program designed to educate African American women about health maintenance, disease prevention, healthy lifestyle promotion, and healthy aging. The HTC project was launched in March 1999 and continues to gain momentum at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania through Penn Health for Women and the CoE.

The HTC project was developed with funding from outside sources for the Helen O. Dickens Center for Women's Health, a health center serving a low-income community in West Philadelphia whose clientele is predominantly African American women. Prior to developing the tip cards, the CoE conducted a literature review and focus groups with women from West Philadelphia to determine the need for health information.

As a result of this research, the Health Tip Cards were developed to focus on four topics: Cardiovascular Disease, Depression, Cancer, and Female Aging Issues. The cards are being distributed to women throughout the clinic sites within the health system, through the Office of Community Affairs at the University of Pennsylvania, and in grocery stores in Philadelphia.

Thank You CoEs!

We received a terrific response from the CoEs for this first issue of the newsletter. We'd like to thank those CoEs that sent us information. If you sent us information, but it did not appear in this issue, your CoE will be highlighted in the next issue. We welcome your input! For newsletter suggestions, please contact Gabrielle Wilson at 301-984-7191 or gwilson@matthewsgroup.com



NATIONAL CENTERS OF
EXCELLENCE
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH